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2020-12-18 Minutes of the Executive Committee of the Academic Senate

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Approved Minutes
Executive Committee of the Academic Senate
December 18, 2020
8:45 am – 10:15 am
Zoom meeting

Present: Joanna Abdallah, Paul Benson, Connie Bowman, James Brill, Sam Dorf, Mark Jacobs, Carissa Krane, Leslie Picca, Jason Pierce, Fran Rice, Andrea Seielstad

Excused: Deo Eustace, Carissa Krane

Guests: Mary Ellen Dillon (FT-NTT faculty senator), Sean Falkowski (Faculty Board representative), Tereza Szeghi (Chair, APC)

Opening

- Opening prayer / meditation – Leslie Picca
- Approval of minutes from 12/11/2020 ECAS meeting. Minutes approved.

Announcements

- Last ECAS meeting for 2020; next meeting Thursday 1/7 8:00-9:15 am

New Business

- APC report: Transfer Policy (Tereza Szeghi). The final report was presented. The committee consulted a wide range of areas and people from across campus. Instead of two separate transfer policies, the transfer credit policy for military training and the undergraduate transfer credit policy, the committee combined the two into one transfer policy. Edits to the policy include: clarification and an increase of the role of faculty in the process, clarification of the process and roles of administrators; faculty and staff, consistency of language used across the policy, stronger indications of procedural implications of the policy, and how the policy can be used to mitigate bias towards some institutions and have a more uniform acceptance of transfers.

Questions/feedback:

- Question: Was consideration given to transfer credits from international institutions? Response: There are dimensions in the international process that are not addressed in the policy, these would be decided by Dean's offices.
- Question: Where do faculty decisions come into play? Response: A centralized database is being developed of courses that have been reviewed for transfer. If a course has never been evaluated, departments, chairs, and faculty are consulted.
- Question: If a course changes once it has been approved for transfer, units and departments need to reach out to ensure the course is still transferable, was this issue discussed? Response: This is an important point, but the committee did not discuss.

- Comment: The CAP component is outside the purview of this policy. Response: There is a taskforce developing a proposal for transfer of credits to satisfy CAP, and should be coming out shortly.

ECAS voted to approve the revised APC edits to the transfer policy. Count: 9 Yes, 0 No, 0 Abstain. The report will be presented to the Senate.

- SAPC: Closing the Loop on the Academic Dishonesty Report. Since no changes were made to the policy, should the form go in front of the Senate for a vote? It was agreed to present the revised form to the Senate, but no vote is needed. The online environment provides different opportunities for dishonest behavior, and should be addressed in the future. The mechanisms used to reduce dishonest behavior also needs to be examined for the unintended consequences of these actions. SAPC will be asked to present an interim report to Senate in January.
- Senate Meeting Schedule (options for Jan 22 Senate meeting). Agenda items for the January meeting were reviewed and prioritized.

Old Business

Charges

Task	Assigned to	Work Due	Update
Univ P&T	FAC (8/28/20)	Jan 2021	
Transfer Policy	APC (8/28/20)	Nov 2020	
Transfer Policy/Military	APC (8/28/20)	Sept 2020	
Academic Dishonesty	SAPC (9/11/20)	mid-Oct 2020	
SET & bias	SAPC (9/11/20)	Feb 2021	

Priorities for Senate 2020-21

1. Pandemic/Budgetary Crisis & Shared Governance
2. Steps to Becoming an Anti-Racist University (focus on step #2 curricular/co-curricular)
3. *Senate Composition, especially increasing FT-NTT faculty reps
4. *University P&T policy (DOC 2006-10), plus evaluation of faculty--charged to FAC
5. SET & Mitigating Bias--charged to SAPC

* Requires a vote of Senate + all tenure-line faculty

Adjourned: 10:02 am

Respectfully submitted, Fran Rice